Government Departments Possessing Aircrafts

4059. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Government departments, ministries, public sector undertakings and autonomous bodies possessing aircrafts;

(b) when they acquired the aircrafts and how much those aircrafts have been flown till date;

(c) the purpose for which the aircrafts were purchased; and

(d) the instances of misuse of those aircrafts noticed by the Government during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Train Accident on Gaya-Kodarma Rail Line

4060. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of train accidents took place on Gaya-Kodarma line of Eastern Railway during the last three years;

(b) whether the Gaya-Kodarma rail line is more prone to train accidents in comparison to other places;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the total loss suffered by the Railways due to the said accidents;

(e) whether the Government are not paying special attention in this regard;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the accidents are taking place due to the negligence of employees and officers of Railways; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The number of consequential train accidents on Gaya-Kodarma section of Eastern Railway during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 was 4, 2, and 2 respectively.

(b) Part of this is ghat section and such comparisons are not possible.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The approximate cost of damage to railway property on account of these accidents was Rs. 82.94 lakhs.

(e) and (f). Safety is accorded the highest priority on Indian Railways. Railways have been continuously endeavouring to minimise the number of accidents by various preventive and remedial measures. Since it is a ghat section, special monitoring of drivers and trains is done on the section.

(g) and (h). Out of the 8 accidents, 6 were due to lapses of railway staff.

Airport within Kanha National Park in M.P.

4061. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for construction of an airport within Kanha National Park in Bhandla district of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the time by which the work of construction of airport is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Registration of Newspapers

4062. DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHIRIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received for granting registration for various newspapers in Hindi and English from various States during 1996, till date;

(b) the number of applications cleared/pending during the above period;

(c) the time by which the pending cases are likely to be cleared, and

(d) the norms fixed for granting registration?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) The number of applications received for registration of newspapers in Hindi and English during 1996 (upto 13.12.96) was 2805.

(b) Certificate of registration were issued in respect of 1100 applications during the above said period. 1705 applications could not be cleared owing to incomplete information given by the publishers.

(c) Pending cases will be cleared as soon as the publishers submit complete documents required for registration in terms of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867 (PRB Act).

(d) Newspapers are registered by the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) under the various provisions of the PRB Act, 1867, as amended form time to time.